

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 10-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4, 6, and 8 are independent. Claims 1, 3-6 and 8 are hereby amended. Claims 10-20 are new. It is submitted that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements 35 U.S.C. §112. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification, specifically on pages 6-8. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2003/0194037 to Ono et al. (hereinafter, merely "Ono").

Claim 1 recites *inter alia*:

"A method of processing data packets...

receiving a series of data packets transmitted over a serial bus;

taking a difference between a requested time of arrival written in a header portion and a cycle time at a time of reception with respect

to said series of data packets, thereby deriving a relative value between said requested time of arrival and said cycle time;

replacing said requested time of arrival with said relative value,

wherein said difference taking step and said replacing step are skipped when said series of data packets is directed to first kind of storage medium in which said series of data packets is stored based on said cycle time, and are preformed when said series of data packets is directed to second kind of storage medium in which said series of data packets is not stored based on said cycle time."
(emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Ono relates to a reception interface unit in a transmission system wherein time series data is divided into data groups and a data packet with reproduction specification time data specifying a time at which each data piece in the data groups should be reproduced and added to the data groups is transmitted on a transmission bus in a time division manner. A dummy SYT generation circuit receives a time difference and receives SYT from an SYT extraction section. The time difference is calculated by the difference between the SYT just before a bus reset and just after a bus reset. A dummy SYT is generated after a bus reset even if the time information before and after the bus reset differs. Also, the time difference may be subtracted from the cycle time after a bus reset to generate a dummy cycle time. Furthermore, the processes are switched according to whether or not the series of data packets are received before the bus reset or after the bus reset.

Applicants submit that nothing has been found in Ono that would teach or suggest the above-identified features of independent claim 1. Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that Ono fails to disclose or suggest difference taking step and replacing step that are skipped when said series of data packets are directed to a first kind of storage medium in which said series of data packets are stored based on said cycle time, and are performed when said

series of data packets are directed to a second kind of storage medium in which said series of data packets are not stored based on said cycle time, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, claim 1 is believed to be patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 4, 6 and 8 are also believed to be patentable.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 4, 6 and 8 are patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

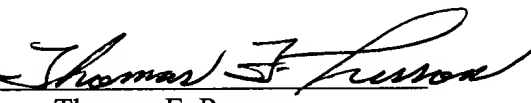
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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